

REMARKS

Claims 1-65 are pending in the present application. The Office Action and cited references have been considered. Favorable reconsideration and allowance are respectfully urged.

The drawings were objected to due to the presence of handwritten figures. The drawings have been corrected and withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claim 2 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Amendments have been made to claim 2 to overcome this rejection. Withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested.

Applicants note with appreciation the indication that claims 3, 18, 21, 28, 30, 34, 39, 42, 43, 47-49 and 51-65 are allowable over the prior art.

Claims 1, 2, 4-17, 19, 20-27, 29, 31-33, 35-38, 40, 41, 44-46, 48 and 50 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Cantoni et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,050,166) in view of Eastmond et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,636,213). This rejection is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

Claim 1 recites a terminal for transporting data packets via radio frames, the terminal comprising a data packet receiver for receiving data packets for communication over a wireless link wherein not every data packet has a same length, and a data packet formatting apparatus coupled to the data packet receiver. The data packet formatting apparatus is for formatting the data packets according to radio frames wherein the radio frames each have a same length and wherein the data packets are formatted into the radio frames such that boundaries for the data packets are not necessarily aligned with boundaries for the radio frames. The terminal further includes a wireless transceiver coupled to the packet formatting apparatus, the wireless transceiver for communicating the radio frames over the wireless link. This is not taught, disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record.

Cantoni '166 discloses a solution for "transmitting variable length messages on a network from a source to a destination in fixed length slots which include a header field and a message segment, said method including the steps of providing a source identifier field in the header of each slot, said source identifier field including a source identifier code which is uniquely associated with the message to be transmitted ... and controlling the reassembly of slots

at the destination in accordance with the source identifier codes of the slots received at the destination." (Col 2, lines 42-53.)

In contradistinction, the present invention provides "receiving data packets for communication over a wireless link wherein not every data packet has a same length, ... formatting the data packets according to radio frames wherein the radio frames each have a same length and wherein the data packets are formatted into the radio frames such that boundaries for the data packet are not necessarily aligned with boundaries for the radio frames." (See e.g., page 3, lines 15-21.)

In other words, while Cantoni teaches segmenting the variable length messages into fixed length slots each of which includes a header field and a message segment associated therewith, and reassembling the messages at the destination end based on the identifier included in the header, the present invention relies on formatting the data packets of variable length into equal length radio frames, so that not all the boundaries of the data packets are aligned with all the boundaries of the radio frames.

Thus, one of the improvements provided by the present invention is that conversion from LAN protocol to an

intermediate protocol is not required prior to wireless transmission.

Furthermore, the method and apparatus provided allow also some features which cannot be performed by Cantoni's patents. For example, according to the method described by Cantoni, the last slot cannot be used for the transmission of both data belonging to the previous and next data packets, as the identifier will identify this combination as a segment which belongs only to the previous packet. According to the method provided by the present invention, there is no such limitation.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that a) none of the independent claims should be considered as being unpatentable over Cantoni, and b) consequently none of their dependent claims, which recite one feature or another that may incidentally be mentioned by Cantoni in relation to the different method described in '166, should be deprived of novelty and inventiveness in view of Cantoni.

Eastmond '213 teaches the provisioning of wireless communication compatible with 10BASE-T Ethernet, by utilizing an absence detector that receives the transmitted signal, determines an absence of the transmitted signal to pass the absence to an activity detector in order to differentiate

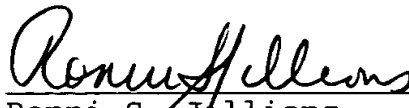
between a reflected signal and a received signal. This publication does not suggest nor provide any method or apparatus provided by the present invention, nor is it directed to solve the same problem as does the present invention. In view of the Applicant's arguments in connection with the Cantoni publication, it is respectfully submitted that the combination of Cantoni and Eastmond cannot be considered as depriving any of the claims to which it was applied, of novelty and of inventiveness.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections of records. Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance and early notice to this effect is most earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner has any questions, he is invited to contact the undersigned at 9202) 628-5197.

Respectfully submitted,

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